

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NEW DE 02423 171902Z

73

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

/058 W

----- 119866

R 171305Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4069

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

AMEMBASSY DACCA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 2423

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, IN

SUBJ: CRITICISM OF THE USG

SUMMARY -- THERE FOLLOWS A WRAP-UP OF DIRECT AND
INDIRECT CRITICISM LEVELED BY INDIAN STATE AND PARTY
LEADERS OVER THIS PAST WEEKEND AT THE USG OR EMBASSY.
END SUMMARY.

1. ACCORDING TO THE TIMES OF INDIA (NEW DELHI)
FEBRUARY 14, PRIME MINISTER GANDHI COMMENTED AS
FOLLOWS ON WESTERN CRITICISM IN A SPEECH AT MYSORE
FEBRUARY 13. QUOTE: WHEN THERE WAS NO EMERGENCY AND
NO CURB ON THE PRESS, HOW MANY OF THE SO-CALLED
DEMOCRATIC COUNTRIES CAME TO INDIA'S HELP AND GAVE IT
MORAL SUPPORT...WE ARE NOT WORRIED ABOUT WHAT THOSE
COUNTRIES THINK ABOUT US. OUR ONE ADVICE TO THEM IS
TO GIVE UP THEIR HYPOCRISY. UNQUOTE. ACCORDING TO
THE INDIAN EXPRESS (NEW DELHI) SAME DATE, THE PRIME
MINISTER ALSO "HIT HARD AT FOREIGN POWERS WHO SHE
SAID WERE HAND IN GLOVE WITH DESTRUCTIVE FORCES WITHIN
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NEW DE 02423 171902Z

THE COUNTRY". SHE THEN IS REPORTED SAYING QUOTE:

AND WHO ARE THEIR SUPPORTERS ABROAD? THOSE WHO BLATANTLY SUPPORTED THE MILITARY DICTATORSHIP OF PAKISTAN WHEN INDIA WAS FIGHTING FOR ITS VERY LIFE. WHEN THERE WERE NO CURBS ON THE PRESS AND NOBODY WAS DETAINED IN THE COUNTRY, HOW MANY OF THESE SO-CALLED DEMOCRATIC COUNTRIES CAME TO THE HELP OF THOSE VERY DUMB MILLIONS? HOW MANY OF THEM THOUGHT IT FIT TO GIVE US AT LEAST MORAL SUPPORT? UNQUOTE. OTHER COMMENTS BY THE PRIME MINISTER AT MYSORE FEBRUARY 13 WERE REPORTED IN MADRAS 0309 (REPEATED AS NEW DELHI 2361 TO SECSTATE) AND NEW DELHI 2355. AS FAR AS CONSULATE GENERAL MADRAS CAN DETERMINE, SHE WAS NOT SPEAKING FROM A TEXT.

2. DURING A STAY IN MADRAS FEBRUARY 13-15, THE PRIME MINISTER REPORTEDLY REFRAINED FROM COMMENTS ABOUT FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND EXTERNAL THREATS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE FOLLOWING REMARKS IN A SPEECH TO A LARGE CONGRESS PARTY GATHERING FEBRUARY 15. QUOTE: THERE ARE SOME, MOSTLY PEOPLE NOT IN INDIA BUT IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES, WHO SAY THAT I OVERREACTED TO THE SITUATION. WE WERE NOT IMAGINING THINGS. WE WERE THINKING OF WHAT HAD HAPPENED IN GUJARAT, BIHAR, AND THAT THIS COULD HAVE BEEN IN OTHER STATES. WHAT WE IMAGINED DID HAPPEN IN ANOTHER ADJOINING COUNTRY. AND THERE ARE THOSE IN OUR COUNTRY AND IN SOME COUNTRIES WHO SAY IT IS UNDEMOCRATIC TO DETAIN PEOPLE. IT IS BETTER TO DETAIN THEM RATHER THAN TO MURDER THEM. NO ONE IN THE WESTERN COUNTRIES HAS PROTESTED WHEN MURDERS HAD TAKEN PLACE ROUND ABOUT OUR COUNTRY. UNQUOTE.

3. THE DEPARTMENT HAS ALREADY RECEIVED A SUMMARY (BASED ON PRESS REPORTS) OF THE SPEECH BY COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER SHARMA AT POONA FEBRUARY 13 IN WHICH HE ALLEGED TTHAT "DURING THE RECENT ELECTIONS IN GUJARAT AN OFFICIAL OF THE US EMBASSY HAD TOURED THE STATE IN HIS CAR DISTRIBUTING MILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO OPPOSITON WORKERS" (NEW DELHI 2363). THE CONSULATE GENERAL BOMBAY TELLS US THAT SHARMA IS ALSO QUOTED IN SEVERAL FRONT-PAGE LOCAL PRESS STORIES, INCLUDING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 NEW DE 02423 171902Z

THE FREE PRESS JOURNAL, FEBRUARY 14, THAT THE GOI KNOWS THE NAME OF THIS PERSON "BUT DID NOT WANT TO DISCLOSE IT BECAUSE IT MIGHT ALERT THEM".
SAXBE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ANTIAMERICAN, PRESS SUMMARIES, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NEWDE02423
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760059-0720
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760243/aaaablr.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 JUN 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <01 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CRITICISM OF THE USG SUMMARY -- THERE FOLLOWS A WRAP-UP OF DIRECT AND
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, IN, US, (GANDHI, INDIRA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006